

The Affirming Power of Grace - Galatians 2:1-10

Intro: To go in the right direction requires that we are aligned with “something that is immovable,” God’s truth.

This was Paul’s concern over the Gospel, which led him to a meeting with leaders in Jerusalem.

I. The _____ in Jerusalem – Galatians 2:1-2

The concern was over the issue of whether Gentiles had to become Jews before they could become Christians – Acts 15:5

Do we require people to “become” Christian before becoming a Christian? See Acts 2:38; 16:31

II. The _____ in Jerusalem – Galatians 2:3-6

Illustrate: The Tunnel (Chunnel) between England and France.

Have Paul and the Jerusalem leaders arrived at the same conclusion concerning the Gospel—it is a gospel of grace?

A. _____ Guarded Grace – 2:3

B. _____ Guarded Grace – 2:4-6
- False Brothers – “Sham Christians.”
- Faithful Apostles – Peter, James, John with Jesus!

C. _____ Guarded Grace -

Paul’s response must be ours. Learn what is being taught, run it through the filter of truth, do not yield (give a foothold) for a moment.

III. The _____ in Jerusalem – Galatians 2:7-10

A. Two _____, One Message by Grace – 2:7

B. Two _____, One Working by Grace – 2:8-9

C. Two _____, One Ministry by Grace – 2:9-10

There are different callings, backgrounds, and different directions that the Lord leads. But there is no difference between the need of all people to hear the truth of the message of the Gospel of grace.

Conclusion: Let's affirm the power of God's grace by keeping its truth a focal point in our faith, in our lives, and in how we respond to one another.

Small Group Questions

1. What are some things that people do to make sure that they are headed in the right direction or that they made the right decision?

2. What did Paul do? Why was his trip to Jerusalem important? What was at stake? Read Acts 15:1-5.

3. Why was the issue of circumcision such a hot button topic? What did the "false brothers" require?

4. Read Galatians 2:3-6. How did Titus and Paul guard grace while in Jerusalem?

5. Read Galatians 2:7-10. What did the leaders in Jerusalem do affirm to Paul and Barnabas? Why was this such a big deal?

6. Read Galatians 2:7-10. Explain how grace was used to affirm that both Paul's ministry and Peter's ministry were different and yet the same?

7. How is God challenging you to think differently?

8. What is a key lesson from this study that you can apply to your life?